

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 00442 180704Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 /036 W
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R 172020Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7011
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, CA
SUBJ: ONTARIO LABOR LEADER'S VIEW OF UNITED STEEL WORKERS'
ELECTION DISPUTE

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY OTTAWA LABOR ATTACHE AND
WITH REPORTING OFFICER, GERARD DOCQUIER, CANADIAN NATIONAL
DIRECTOR, UNITED STEEL WORKERS STATED THAT UNITED STEEL WORKERS
ELECTION DISPUTE BETWEEN MCBRIDE AND SADLOWSKI IS DEAD ISSUE IN
CANADA. IN DOCQUIER'S OPINION, SADLOWSKI'S GROUP'S LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS IN U.S. WOULD NEITHER INVOLVE CANADIAN MEMBERS NOR
WOULD PROCEEDINGS' RESULTS BE ACCEPTED AS LEGITIMATE IN FEDERAL
JUDICIAL CONTEXT OR IN ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CONTEXT.

2. COMMENT: DOCQUIER'S OPINION DOES NOT IMPLY THAT A SADLOWSKI
FACTION IN ONTARIO MIGHT NOT BRING THE CASE INTO ONTARIO COURTS.
END COMMENT.

3. DMCQUIER BELIEVES THAT POSSIBLE ONTARIO LEGAL PROCEEDINGS
WOULD BE MESSY AND DISRUPTIVE FROM TRADE UNION POINT OF VIEW
BUT HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE FINAL DECISION WILL BE ACCEPTANCE
OF MCBRIDE AS LEGITIMATELY ELECTED LEADER. HOWEVER, DOCQUIER'S
CONCERN IS THAT A COURT CONTEST IN THE UNITED STATES MIGHT
DISALLOW OR ANNUL THE CANADIAN VOTES IN THE UNITED STEEL WORKER'S
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INTERNATIONAL ELECTION PROCEDURE. IN HIS OPINION SUCH AN ANNULMENT
WOULD BE SEEN AS AN INSULT BY THE CANADIAN STEEL WORKERS AND MIGHT
LEAD TO SOME DIFFICULT PROBLEMS WITHIN THE UNION - AND
INDIRECTLY BETWEEN CANADIANS AND AMERICANS GENERALLY.
DIGGINS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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